

According to private Letters from Vienna, a Treaty of Marriage is on Foot between the young Elector of Bavaria and a certain Princess; which, if it takes Effect, will probably unite the Kingdoms of Austria and Bavaria.

The Election for an Emperor is to be on the first Day of June next: The Candidates are, the Grand Duke of Tuscany, the Elector of Bavaria, the King of Poland, and the King of Prussia. There are Letters in Town which give an Account, that the Emperor, the largest of the two French Men of War from St. Domingo (which were chased by the Hampton-Court and Headnought), was burnt a few Days ago at Brest; but by what Accident is not known. Some say that 500 of her Hands perished thereby.

#### BOSTON, May 6.

Yesterday his Majesty's Ship Princess Mary, of 60 Guns, sailed from Nantasket-Road, to join Commodore Warren off Louisburg, to the great Satisfaction of all the Well-wishers to that important Expedition, who had been under much Concern that this valiant Ship has been so long from her Station, at this critical Conjuncture.

Last Thursday Capt. Rouse, Commander of a Snow of 20 Guns, in the Service of this Government, arrived here in 7 Days from Canfo, and brings the following Account of our Army and Fleet; viz. That all the Forces were arrived, and that the Army was still at Canfo, in good Health and high Spirits, and very impatient to be in Action; but had not been able to land on the French Shore, for the Ice that was in all the Bays and Harbours. However, as the Ice began to break away, the General intended to sail for Chapparrong-Bay the first fair Wind. He was informed by some of the Enemy who were taken Prisoners, that the Soldiers in Louisburg having mutinied in December last, for Want of Pay, the Governor was obliged to call all the Men upon the Island to suppress them.

The Connecticut Forces, who were conveyed by their Colours, Sloop, and one fitted out by Rhode-Island Colony, were met in their Passage to Canfo, by a French Ship of upwards of 60 Guns, and full of Men. The Rhode-Island Sloop engaged the Frenchman very briskly, and kept him in Play, 'till the Connecticut Sloop had carried off the Transports, which afterwards arrived safe at Canfo: The Rhode-Island Sloop suffered so much in the Engagement, that it was with the utmost Difficulty she escaped being taken. — The Ship afterwards fell in with the Rhode-Island Snow, and Capt. Fletcher of this Town, who both engaged her smartly for some Time, and did her a great deal of Damage; but having the Heels of them got clear off. — She was afterwards met by Capt. Rouse, who engaged her 6 or 7 Hours, in which Time he expended 500 Weight of powder; and would certainly have taken her, if she had not outtailed him. — It is not certainly known, whether this Ship came directly from France or Martinico; but most probably from the latter Place; the Prisoners lately taken having informed, that there was a Ship of the same Force at Martinico, that was blown off last Fall, laden with Stores.

Last Friday Capt. Gayton, in a large Ship, with about 35 Guns, sailed for Canfo, to join our Fleet in those Parts. And at the same time sailed several Vessels with Provisions and Stores for the Fleet and Army.

Last Saturday Night Capt. Rouse sailed for his Station off Cape Breton.

*As Cape Breton, at present engages the Attention of our Readers, perhaps the following short Account of the Importance of that Place, will not be disagreeable to many of them.*

The Island of Breton, or as the French call it, the Isle Royale, lies between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia; and is about 60 Leagues long, and near 10 broad. The Soil is but indifferent, but the Coast is full of good Harbours, in most of which

the French have small Settlements, and Stages for the Fishery; but there are no Fortifications of any Consequence, except at Louisburg. This Town is about 3 Quarters of a Mile long, and nearly oval: It is regularly fortified on the Land-side, and the Harbour defended by several Batteries.

This Island was given to the French by the [wis?] Treaty of Utrecht; and by the Advantage of it, they have carried on a prodigious Fishery, annually employing 1000 Sail of Vessels, from 200 to 400 Tons; and 20000 Men. It is computed that they cure 5 Millions of Quintals of Fish, one Year with another: And in 1730, they carried to Marseilles only, 2200 Thousand Quintals.

From hence it plainly appears to have been a vast Nursery of Seamen, and a prodigious Addition to the Riches and Strength of France; and that the Reduction of it must be a proportionable Increase of the Number of British Seamen, and of the Wealth of Britain, and the British Dominions in America: For the French, if removed from thence, have no other Shelter for their Fishery, nearer than Old France; and therefore must of Necessity drop it in a great Measure.

From the Situation of the Island, it commands the Navigation up the great River St. Lawrence, and so cuts off all Communication with Quebec; by which Means the whole Country of Canada, must in a little Time fall into the Hands of the English, if they are once Masters of Cape Breton: Some of the many Consequences of which, are as follow.

The French Sugar Islands would lose the chief Vend for their Rum and Molasses, and the Supply of Lumber and Provisions they now have from Canada; and the English Islands would gain both. — Great-Britain must have a boundless Vend for all Kinds of her Manufactures, and command the valuable Trade in Furr, with all the Indian Nations: And those of them who live near the English Settlements, will have no French Missionaries to stir them up to a mischievous and expensive War.

While on the other Hand, so long as the French keep Possession of that Place, all the British Plantations in North America will be liable to perpetual Annoyance, from their Parties and Indians by Land; and all the British Navigation to, and in America, from their Privateers and Men of War; as we have sufficiently experienced the last Summer.

The only Reflection I shall make from these Facts is, that every Man who loves his Country, ought to pray for the Success of the present Expedition.

#### PHILADELPHIA, May 16.

Capt. Stanley, who arrived on Tuesday last from Boston, met with a Rhode-Island Privateer, Capt. Dennis, homeward bound with a Spanish Prize, which had 30000 Dollars on board and a Cargo worth 40000 more. Dennis and Conkland, in Concert, have taken 17 Prizes since November last; but the former with two of her Prizes, falling in with two Spanish Men of War, was roughly used, and had much Difficulty to escape, with the Loss of them both.

By a List handed about here, it appears, that since the Commencement of the War with Spain, there have been taken, cast away, and lost, of the Vessels belonging to this Port, 30 Ships, 17 Snows, 25 Brigantines, and 20 Sloops; in all, 92 Sail: Of which 25 were taken by the Spaniards, 12 by the French, and the rest cast away, or lost at Sea, or taken, and never heard of.

May 23. Saturday last arrived Capt. Bowne, from Providence, by whom we learn, that a small Privateer of that Place, commanded by John Gardner, with 9 Men only, had taken so much small Craft on the Spanish Coast, as to share 1000 Pieces of Eight per Man.

By a Letter from Charles-Town in Carolina, it is confirmed that the Snow Cruiser, Capt. Clymer, of this Place, in Company